So What?

In a nutshell, what’s the authors’ argument—of what are they trying to convince us?

|  |
| --- |
|  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Tone?

What are two different but complementary tones—two words that pinpoint precisely the attitude of the authors?

|  |
| --- |
| Leonid Fridman’s tones of urgency and indignation applaud the relevancy of America’s need for the ostracized citizen who actually wants to learn, and is therefore labeled nerd or geek. |
| In Leonid Fridman’s article, “America Needs Its Nerds,” he is highly critical and hostile towards our country’s perspective of those who pursue academics seriously. |
| In Fridman’s passage, he is defensive and just downright ticked off at our “anti-intellectual society.” |

Tone Thesis Exemplars

* Highlight the tone words.
* Circle the power verbs.
* Box the So What?

Your Tone Thesis

Write a tone thesis for your given text.

|  |
| --- |
|  |